# For further information contact:

NH:

Concord, NH 603-223-6045

VT:

Chittenden, Franklin, Grand Isle, Lamoille, Orange and Washington Counties 802-828-6032

Addison, Bennington, Rutland, Windham and Windsor Counties 802-257-7878 Ext 113

Caledonia, Essex and Orleans Counties 603-747-2777 Ext 113 USDA Rural Development's mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life in Rural America by providing financial and technical assistance

#### Committed to the future of rural communities

Rural Development is an Equal Opportunity Lender,
Provider, and Employer. Complaints of
discrimination should be sent to:
USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).

# Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program



Visit our web site at http://www.rurdev.usda.gov

#### **ELIGIBLE PURPOSES**

Water and Waste Disposal loans and grants may be made to develop, extend, or improve water and wastewater systems, including solid waste disposal and storm drainage, in rural areas.

## **ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS**

An eligible applicant can be a public body (town, village, special purpose district) or a non-profit association serving a community with a population of 10,000 or less. Applicants must also show that they are unable to afford commercial credit.

## **ELIGIBLE PROJECT**

Eligible projects include water improvements (source, storage, distribution, treatment, meters), sanitary sewer (collection, treatment, combined sewer separation, storm sewers), solid waste disposal (transfer station, incinerator), new systems, renovations, expansions, purchase of an existing system or "buy-in" fees to existing systems.

# **ELIGIBLE PROJECT COSTS**

Eligible costs include funds for engineering, construction, legal costs, land and rights, interim financing interest and equipment. Individual house service connections are generally not eligible.

#### LOAN TERMS/RATES

In Vermont, terms are limited by state law to 30 years for sewer and 40 years for water improvements. In New Hampshire, terms are limited by state law to 30 years for water and 30 years for sewer. The interest rate is based on the median household income of the service area. For current interest rates, contact Rural Development

#### **GRANT ELIGIBILITY**

Grants are available to supplement loans when:

- 1. the service area is determined to be low income and
- 2. the projected user rates will be unreasonably high.

# INFORMATION NEEDED TO DETERMINE GRANT ELIGIBILITY

- 1. Total project cost.
- 2. Projected operating costs
- 3. Repayment schedule of any existing long term debt.
- 4. Number of equivalent users (EDU).
- 5. Amount of other funding proposed.

#### PROCUREMENT METHODS

Competitive sealed bids. There are no Federal Wage requirements (Davis- Bacon). Free technical assistance is available to:

- 1. Provide operations assistance for existing systems.
- 2. Identify and evaluate solutions to problems.
- 3. Advertise for and select a consulting engineer.
- 4. Assist applicants with the Rural Development application process.
- 5. Provide income surveys.

This assistance is available through Rural Development staff, Vermont Rural Water Association 800-556-3792 and RCAP Solutions, Inc. 800-488-1969.

# **VERY IMPORTANT**

To determine the maximum assistance that can be offered, please contact Rural Development at the earliest possible stage of your planning.

(Rev 10/2005)

# FREE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE